

MINUTES
STATE BOARD FOR COMMUNITY AND JUNIOR COLLEGES
March 18, 2005

The regular meeting of the State Board for Community and Junior Colleges was held on Friday, March 18, 2005, at 9:00 a.m., in Room 507 of the Education and Research Center in Jackson, Mississippi.

Members present: Major General Denver Brackeen, Mr. Chip Crane, Mr. Napoleon Moore, Mr. Jimmy Murphy, Dr. Dorothy Nelson, Ms. Patricia Randall, Mr. George Walker, Mr. Lawrence Warren and Mrs. Brenda Yonge.

Members not present: Ms. Veldore Young.

Staff in attendance: Dr. Wayne Stonecypher, Mr. John Adcock, Dr. Randall Bradberry, Dr. Larry Day, Mrs. Deborah Gilbert, Mr. Dexter Holloway, Mr. Jason Pugh, Mr. Ray Smith, Mrs. Denise Walley.

Guests in attendance: Dr. Vivian Presley – Coahoma Community College; Dr. Willis Lott – Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College; Ms. Bobbie Gilkey – State Department of Education; and Mr. Chuck Rubisoff – Attorney General's Office.

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. George Walker called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

PRELIMINARIES

Mrs. Deborah Gilbert gave the invocation.

Approval of the Minutes of the February 17-18, 2005, Meetings

Upon a motion by Mr. Jimmy Murphy and a second by Mr. Napoleon Moore, the Board **voted unanimously** to approve the minutes of the February 17-18, 2005, meetings.

Review and Approval of Agenda

Upon a motion by Mr. Lawrence Warren and a second by Mrs. Brenda Yonge, the Board **voted unanimously** to approve the agenda as presented.

REPORTS

Executive Director's Report

Dr. Stonecypher began by mentioning the increase of mileage reimbursement to .405 cents per mile. He also reminded the Board that election of officers will take place at the April meeting.

The Governor is expected to sign the Workforce funding bill on March 23, 2005. Dr. Stonecypher is pleased with the amount of funds that will be available and hopes to possibly use the additional funds in other workforce areas that have not been considered in the past. The Workforce Division is working on updating guidelines for use of the funds, which the

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SBCJC Board will approve before taking it to the new Workforce Investment Board (WIB) at the end of the fiscal year.

Dr. Stonecypher and Mr. Walker were unable to attend the last WIB meeting; however, Mr. Jason Pugh attended in their place. Mr. Pugh reported that there were approximately 60-80 people attending the meeting for the purpose of creating a strategic plan, which was started by means of using a computerized strategic planner used by NASA and Mississippi. Mr. Pugh provided "Exhibit F", an article by Lynn Jeter in the *Mississippi Business Journal* entitled Workforce Board Draft Plan In Record Time.

Dr. Stonecypher provided an article sent to him by Mr. Pete Walley regarding Toyota (Exhibit G). Also, *Education, Training Support Today's Manufacturing Operations* is an article that shows a good example of how career/technical and workforce are working together in industrial training (Exhibit H).

Conference weekend at the Capitol will be March 26-27, 2005. Dr. Stonecypher stated that we would have a better understanding of budget cuts after that time.

Dr. Stonecypher thanked the Board for their support in regards to opposing "line item" type funding. Dr. Bradberry and Mrs. Gilbert met with the leaders at the Capitol to express the concern of the Board and staff regarding the lack of flexibility in this type of funding and the consequences that will occur. The House has deleted "line item" language in their bill; however, it still exists in the Senate bill.

Mr. Ray Smith was called on to give a report on the recent "Creating Futures through Technology" Conference. Mr. Smith shared a copy of the program, which is shown as "Exhibit I". The conference is sponsored through the SBCJC and Institutions of Higher Learning (IHL) in conjunction with a college each year, which handles the administrative functions of the conference. The University of Southern Mississippi assisted IHL in hosting the conference this year.

(Mr. Crane entered the meeting.)

Dr. Stonecypher reminded the Board that Phi Theta Kappa will have its award ceremony on March 23, 2005 at the Clarion Hotel and Convention Center. The Governor is scheduled to sign the Workforce Bill at 1:00 p.m. the same afternoon.

One goal of the SBCJC is to find a way to electronically transmit transcripts between K-12, community colleges and the eight universities. Dr. Stonecypher stated that if the institutions could access this information electronically, a massive amount of time could be saved during the registration process. Dr. Stonecypher plans to visit with Dr. Crofts and Dr. Johnson to explore ways that this could be done with limited costs involved.

Another goal is to move career/technical and workforce to National Skills Standards for training. Funds will be needed to help implement the changes at the colleges to bring them to this level of accountability.

Dr. Stonecypher stated that Dr. Starkey Morgan, President of Holmes Community College, extended a verbal invitation to host the April 15, 2005 SBCJC Board meeting. After discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Lawrence Warren and a second by General Denver Brackeen, the Board **voted unanimously** to decline the offer for April, due to the fact that plans to visit MGCCC in May have been made. However, the Board would consider visiting Holmes later in the year.

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Mr. Walker mentioned that the Board will begin the process of Dr. Stonecypher's job evaluation at the next meeting.

MACJC Report

Dr. Vivian Presley reported that the MACJC last met on February 22, 2005, at the SBCJC office. During their meeting, concerns regarding diploma mills were discussed. Although these schools may be accredited, they are not accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges (SACs), which is the accrediting body that Mississippi recognizes. Some colleges are using the ACT as a placement indicator - others are using formal placement tests to place the students at the community colleges.

The Association discussed the Academic Articulation agreement with IHL. Dr. Presley stated that the last draft of the agreement that was presented contained numerous errors. However, she feels that they are headed in the right direction.

Dr. Andy Mullins and representatives of the University of Mississippi's Small Business Development Center (SBDC) attended the meeting and gave a presentation. One goal of the SBDC is to have counseling centers at each of the community/junior colleges. The counseling centers will contain part-time or retired people who want to continue utilizing their skills and give back to their communities. A major concern expressed deals with the overlap of the community college districts. The Association asked the group to provide more information that would outline how district conflicts would be resolved before they plan to endorse the SBDC's proposal.

The MACJC Faculty held "Community College Day" at the Capitol on February 22, 2005. Dr. Muse and Dr. Whitehead made comments at the press conference.

Mr. John Adcock gave the Association an update on a letter that was sent to Dr. Sardin regarding exemption of the pre-service requirements for the community college teachers. Dr. Sardin agreed that the community college teachers would not be required to complete the follow-up activities after completing the one-week pre-service.

The Two-Year College English Association -Southeast (TYCA-SE) Conference was held February 24-26, 2005 in Jackson. Dr. Evelyn Webb was instrumental in planning the conference that covers ten (10) states in our region. Actor Morgan Freeman and Lauren Hemmingway (grand daughter of Earnest Hemmingway) participated as members of the panel.

Seetha Srinivasan – University Press of Mississippi

Mrs. Seetha Srinivasan, Director of University Press of Mississippi (the Press), thanked Dr. Stonecypher, Mrs. Gilbert and the Board for the opportunity to speak on the activities and duties of the Press. The Press was founded in 1970 and is supported by Mississippi's eight state universities. Approximately 12% of its operating revenue is a direct appropriation from the universities combined; the remainder of its revenue comes from the sales of the books they publish. The Press publishes scholarly books of the highest distinction and books that interpret the south and its culture to the nation and the world. From its offices in Jackson, the Press acquires, edits, distributes, and promotes approximately sixty-five new books every year. Over the past 34 years, it has published more than 800 titles and distributed more than 2,500,000 copies world wide, each with the Mississippi imprint. These are all approved by their board of directors, which is made up of two representatives from each of the eight state universities, a representative from the Board of Trustees of the Institutions of Higher Learning (IHL) and the director of the Press. It is the only non-profit book publisher in the state and is currently working

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on the publication of *The History of the Mississippi Community and Junior Colleges*, a combined effort of the fifteen community colleges through the Mississippi Association of Community Colleges (MACJC).

It is part of their mission to make known the culture of both the state and the region to a national and international audience. They also provide a service to institutions that are in some way connected to the dissemination of knowledge and information (i.e. the Mississippi Department of Archives). Mrs. Srinivasan provided a copy of their catalog, shown as "Exhibit J".

Workforce Report

Mr. Walker began by explaining the importance of the workforce funding bill (SB 2480) and expressed that he was pleased with the amount appropriated because it will offer additional opportunities to the Mississippi workforce.

****The meeting recessed at 10:05 a.m. and reconvened at 10:15 a.m.***

Mr. Dexter Holloway gave a current activities report on workforce training, shown as "Exhibit A".

Mr. Holloway reminded the Board that the Quality Awards luncheon will be held April 20, 2005, at the Pearl River Resort.

EdNet Report

Dr. Larry Day reported that EdNet had not met since the report given at the last meeting. Proposals to lease the excess EBS capacity are still being reviewed and have been narrowed down to five. Dr. Day will have more to report at the next meeting.

Program Report

Dr. Randall Bradberry stated that a letter had been received from the Mississippi Higher Education Assistance Corporation (MHEAC) concerning the Board's responsibility of appointing four (4) members to the Corporation, see "Exhibit B". In the past, the Board appointed Dr. Clyde Muse as one of its appointees; however, Dr. Muse's term will expire May 3, 2005. Dr. Bradberry recommended reappointing Dr. Muse since he has agreed to continue serving, unless the Board had someone else in mind for the position. Upon a motion by Mr. Jimmy Murphy and a second by Mr. Chip Crane, the Board **voted unanimously** to reappoint Dr. Clyde Muse to serve another term with MHEAC.

Mrs. Eloise Richardson announced that the Adult Basic Education (ABE) office will have a federal monitoring visit from the U. S. Department of Education the week of March 28 – March 31, 2005. The U.S. Department of Education are visiting individual states for ABE monitoring for the first time in fourteen years. During their visit, they are also interested in meeting with other agencies with which we partner, such as the National Guard, Department of Human Services, etc.

Mrs. Richardson reported on a student that required special accommodations due to blindness that recently took the GED tests through Mrs. Wanda Stirewalt with the Jackson Public Schools. Mrs. Richardson explained the process of giving the test via audio cassette, which required substantial time and effort of the examiner. The student passed her GED, received her diploma, and is now taking classes at Hinds Community Colleges. Mrs. Richardson praised the efforts of the examiner and others like her who are willing to "go the extra mile" to assist those with

special needs.

Recommendation of Hearing Panel Regarding GED Certificate for Sammy McGee

Mr. Chuck Rubisoff, the SBCJC A.G. Representative, gave a review of events that led up to the hearing concerning Mr. Sammy McGee. A copy of the actual findings and recommendations of the hearing panel is attached as "Exhibit K". Although there were discrepancies of facts between the GED Director (Mrs. Eloise Richardson) and Mr. McGee regarding when the tests were given and how long it took to complete the tests, it was the hearing panel's belief that there was not enough substantial evidence at this time to recommend the revocation of the GED certificate awarded to Mr. McGee. Upon a motion by Mr. Lawrence Warren and a second by Dr. Dorothy Nelson, the Board **voted unanimously** to approve the hearing panel's recommendation. Members of the hearing panel were Dr. Randall Bradberry, Dr. Larry Day and Mrs. Deborah Gilbert.

Career / Technical Program Requests

Mr. John Adcock reported on four (4) requests from the colleges (see Exhibit C) and action was taken, as follows:

Upon a motion by Dr. Dorothy Nelson and a second by General Denver Brackeen, the Board **voted unanimously** to approve a request from East Central Community College to offer Medical Billing and Coding as an option under Business and Office Technology.

Upon a motion by Dr. Dorothy Nelson and a second by General Denver Brackeen, the Board **voted unanimously** to approve a request from East Central Community College to offer Wide Area Network as an option under Computer Programming.

Upon a motion by Mr. Jimmy Murphy and a second by Ms. Patricia Randall, the Board **voted unanimously** to approve a request from Hinds Community College to offer Food Production and Management to inmates (only) from the Penal Farm at the Raymond Campus.

Upon a motion by Mr. Chip Crane and a second by Mr. Napoleon Moore, the Board **voted unanimously** to approve a request from Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College to move the Industrial Maintenance Program that is currently being taught at the Jefferson Davis Campus to the Jackson County Campus.

Career / Technical Education Committee Update

Mr. Jason Pugh reported that due to the agreement entered into with the Mississippi Department of Education regarding the administration of post-secondary career/technical education, the SBCJC must put together a plan for distribution of funds and submit it by the end of the year. The eleven (11) member task force that has been assigned to this mission is chaired by Dr. Howell Garner and has met twice. A survey was distributed to the college presidents, business managers, career/technical deans/directors, and workforce center directors to get their input on how it should be funded. A public hearing will be held on March 30, 2005, at the Phi Theta Kappa building, which will give everyone an opportunity to voice their thoughts and concerns regarding this effort. Mr. Pugh provided an outline of the results from the survey, shown as "Exhibit D". The committee will have final recommendations for the Board to review in June or July.

Legislative Report

Dr. Bradberry began by sharing a copy of a template for dual credit/dual enrollment and Appendix A (High School Graduate Requirements), both shown as Exhibit L. The presidents have reviewed the template and given their input. Dr. Bradberry reviewed the concerns that the colleges have regarding the recommendations.

Dr. Bradberry presented bill summary listings (direct, indirect and resolutions) currently being tracked by the SBCJC office, shown as "Exhibit M". Dr. Bradberry gave a brief review of the legislation that directly impacts the SBCJC office and the community colleges.

Finance Report

Mrs. Deborah Gilbert presented the items on the Finance Agenda as follows:

Upon a motion by Mr. Lawrence Warren and a second by Mr. Chip Crane, the Board **unanimously approved** the Education Enhancement Fund Disbursement for February 28, 2005, from Fund 4080 in the amount of \$1,982,616.29 and from Fund 4110 in the amount of \$46,368.64, for a combined total of \$2,028,984.93, shown as "Finance Attachment 1".

Mrs. Gilbert reviewed "Finance Attachment 2" which outlines the House and Senate Versions of Appropriation Bills 3061 (Administration) and 3062 (Support).

Mrs. Gilbert provided Financial Statements for Funds 2291 and Special Funds, as of February 28, 2005, shown as "Finance Attachment 3a & 3b". The statements show that we are working well within the budget and the item does not require Board action.

"Finance Attachment 4" shows the current reimbursement rates for travel and the maximum daily meal reimbursement policy.

Federal Funds Approval for Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College

Mr. Pugh presented "Exhibit E", which explains Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College's request to apply for a United States Department of Agriculture Rural Development Loan for the construction of two dormitories at a cost of up to \$6,000,000 for the Perkinston Campus. The college is required by State Statute 37-29-107 to obtain the Board's approval prior to pursuing the loan. Dr. Lott spoke briefly regarding plans to use the loan for the construction of two (2) dormitories. The loan will be paid back at four and a half percent (4½%) interest over a period of twenty-five years with revenue from dormitory rental fees. Upon a motion by Mrs. Brenda Yonge and a second by Mr. Chip Crane, the Board **voted unanimously** to approve Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College's request to pursue the U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development Loan.

Travel Authorizations

Mr. Walker asked if there were requests for travel reimbursement for events other than regularly scheduled Board meetings. Upon a motion by Mr. Lawrence Warren and a second by Mrs. Brenda Yonge, the Board **voted unanimously** to approve travel authorizations as follows:


Mr. Walker plans to attend a WIB meeting in Jackson on March 29, 2005.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:37 a.m.



Mr. George Walker, Chairman



Dr. Wayne Stonecyphe, Executive Director

Exhibits and Finance Attachments

Workforce Budget Report -----	A
Mississippi Higher Education Assistance Corp (MHEAC) Appointment Request -----	B
Career / Technical Program Requests-----	C
Career / Technical Education Committee Update -----	D
Federal Funds Approval for Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College -----	E
<u>Workforce Board Drafts Plan In Record Time</u> , Article in <i>The Mississippi Business Journal</i> -----	F
<u>Toyota Confident of Expansion</u> Article-----	G
<u>Education Training Support Today's Manufacturing Operation</u> , Article -----	H
Creating Futures Through Technology (Handout)-----	I
University Press of Mississippi Catalog -----	J
Findings and Recommendations of the Hearing Panel regarding GED Certificate for Sammy McGee -----	K
Dual Credit / Dual Enrollment High School Graduation Requirements and Articulation Agreement Template -----	L
SBCJC Bill Tracking Report of Direct and Indirect Legislation -----	M
Workforce Bill (SB 2480) -----	N
Education Enhancement Fund Disbursements for February 28, 2005-----	Finance Attachment 1
House and Senate Version of SB 3061 (Administration) & SB 3062 (CJC Support) -	Finance Attachments 2a – 2d
Financial Statements of Funds 2291 and Special Funds as of February 28, 2005 ----	Finance Attachment 3a – 3b
Maximum Daily Meal and Mileage Reimbursement Rate Increases -----	Finance Attachment 4